

He went to work for Southwestern Bell in 1949 and joined the Communications Workers of America, Local 6222 on the same day. During his 22 years with Southwestern Bell, Joe spent 11 years in full-time service to Local 6222.

Joe ran for job steward and was easily elected. Within a very short time, he ran for Chief Steward and was again elected. Always looking for more challenges, Joe ran for and was elected first as a vice president and then as president of Local 6222. That is when I met Joe in 1972.

In a short time, Joe was elected and served as a vice president and as the president of the Harris County AFL-CIO.

In January, 1979, Joe was elected as the secretary-treasurer of the Texas AFL-CIO. He served in this capacity until his election as president on July 29, 1989.

But Joe's life has involved more than the CWA or the AFL-CIO. Joe also served for seven years as a Commissioner on the Texas Employment Commission, the precursor to the Texas Workforce Commission. He was first appointed to this position by former Governor Dolph Briscoe.

He has also served his community by holding such positions as vice president of the Harris County United Way, the Houston Council Boy Scouts Executive Council, and youth director of his church.

Joe is married to Dorothy Ann Taylor Gunn. They have ten children, six of which were foster children. He and his wife attend the United Methodist Church in Austin.

Joe Gunn never forgot that his purpose was to improve the working conditions of all Texans. He has always represented workers and has worked tirelessly for a safe workplace, fair pay and respect for all employees, union and non-union.

He is a legend and a force in Texas politics and will not be forgotten or easily replaced.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Joe Gunn for his many years of service and to wish him well in his retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2003

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, on June 23, I was participating in the World Economic Forum in Amman, Jordan with Congressman JIM KOLBE and other Members of the House and Senate. As a result, I missed four recorded votes.

I take my voting responsibility very seriously and would like the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to reflect that, had I been present, I would have voted yes on recorded vote number 297, yes on recorded vote number 298, yes on recorded vote number 299, and yes on recorded vote 300.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE OF BILL JONES

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2003

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding service of

Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Police Commissioner Bill Jones, who will retire from his post on August 31 after 47 years of law enforcement work.

Bill Jones became the police commissioner in my hometown of Murfreesboro 16 years ago. Since then, he has initiated a number of programs that have bolstered law enforcement and enhanced the quality of life in Murfreesboro. My hometown has experienced tremendous growth during Bill's tenure as police commissioner. The police department has doubled in size, but more importantly, the expansion of the department has been an efficient one.

Bill started his career in law enforcement as a Tennessee state trooper shortly after returning home from service in the United States Navy during the Korean conflict. Bill rose through the ranks of the Tennessee Highway Patrol before finally leading the organization as its safety commissioner.

After nearly half a century in law enforcement, Bill has decided to remove the badge and enjoy his family without any distractions. The community of Murfreesboro, as well as the state of Tennessee, has been served well and with distinction by Commissioner Jones. I congratulate him for his tireless, dedicated service to law enforcement and wish him well in his retirement.

EXPRESSING SYMPATHY FOR VICTIMS OF ALGERIAN EARTHQUAKE

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2003

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I stand in strong support of H. Res. 264 expressing sympathy for the victims of the devastating earthquake in Algeria on May 21, 2003.

Natural disasters, such as earthquakes, can wreak havoc in a community or nation.

At times like these, it is vital to come to the support and aid of our friends.

I am pleased that our nation has assisted the Algerians in the emergency phase of their response to the earthquake and I encourage our government to support the Algerians as they seek to rebuild their homes and communities.

Algeria is an important partner and friend of the United States in many respects, not the least of which is in the war against terror—the Algerians have experienced the horrors of terrorism in their own land for many years.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

TRIBUTE TO PUEBLO COMMUNITY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress today to recognize an academic institution that has served Pueblo, Colorado for the last 70 years. Pueblo Community College (PCC) has maintained its focus on quality education over the course of a lifetime

as it has expanded to meet the state's needs. As we reflect upon this 70th anniversary, I commend Pueblo Community College for the positive impact that it has had upon individuals and families throughout the State of Colorado.

Pueblo Community College traces its origins back to the incorporation of Southern Colorado Junior College in 1933. Since the original graduating class of 17 in 1935, enrollment at PCC has increased enough to warrant expanding to three additional campuses in Cañon City, Durango, and Cortez. The total enrollment in PCC now exceeds 5,000 students, all of whom value PCC's affordability, flexible hours, and varied degree programs.

More than half of Pueblo Community College's students are employed and would not have access to higher education if not for the flexibility offered by Pueblo Community College. Students at PCC have the opportunity to work toward Certificates of Completion, Associate of Science, Associate of Arts, Associate of General Studies, and Associate of Applied Science degrees. The assortment of programs allows first-time college students and working adults alike the opportunity for a brighter future.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Pueblo Community College before this body of Congress and this nation. PCC provides many Coloradans access to higher education and the skills necessary for a successful career. I congratulate Pueblo Community College on its success and commend the institution for the positive impact that it has made upon Colorado's citizens for the past 70 years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2003

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, on June 23, 2003, due to flight delays, I missed rollcall votes Nos. 297, 298, 299, and 300. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all four votes.

IN REGARD TO MR. CHARLES MULCAHY

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2003

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Wisconsin native Mr. Charles Mulcahy for his nomination by HM King Albert II of Belgium to become a Knight in the Order of Leopold.

Mr. Mulcahy has served with distinction as Honorary Consul of Belgium since 1985. He has provided guidance to the development of bilateral economic, commercial, cultural, scientific and educational relations, assisted Belgian citizens, and promoted Belgian interests over the past 15 years.

Mr. Mulcahy has been an active participant in business and economic development matters for over 25 years. He is a senior partner with the law firm of Whyte Hirschboeck Dudek in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and is known for his